



In view of the above election, applicants hereby cancel non-elected claims 1-3 and 7-30 without prejudice to the filing of any divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part application. The above amendments to claims 4 and 6 are made solely to remove reference to non-elected subject matter. Following this amendment, claims 4-6 are under examination. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating during the telephone conversation of March 5, 2003 with the undersigned agent, that examination can proceed for Group II claims directed to methods that relate to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8 (encoded by the cDNA set forth in SEQ ID NO:7), as recited in the amended claims.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Consideration of the elected claims is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie D. Saba et al.

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